

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
Patent and Trademark Office
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MAILED: FEB 12 2001

Paper No.:

In re Application of
Randall L. Mills

Serial No.'s: 09/009,837; 09/008,947;
09/009,294; 09/110,678; 09/111,003;
09/501,622; 09/110,694; 09/110,717;
09/225,687; and 09/362,693

COMMUNICATION

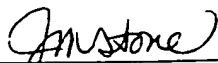
This communication is in response to your letter addressed to Ms. Esther Kepplinger, dated January 19, 2001. In your letter, you state that a personal interview on the above-identified applications has been scheduled for February 21, 2001, 10:00 a.m.

Examination procedures with respect to interview practice are set forth in MPEP 713.01. The purpose of an interview on the merits is to advance the prosecution of applications through clarification, discussion and possibly resolution of the legal and technical issues raised in an Office Action. Consequently, I have arranged for the Primary Examiners and Supervisors who were directly involved in the creation of the Office actions in the pending applications, to be present at the interview. These individuals are Wayne Langel, Vasu Jagannathan, and Steve Griffin.

Issues raised in your letter which are not germane to the advancement of prosecution on the pending applications are outside the scope of an interview, and will not be addressed during that time.

It is our hope that the interview on the merits will constitute a beneficial discussion of the legal and technical positions set forth by the examiners.

Sincerely,



Jacqueline M. Stone, Director
Director, Technology Center 1700
Chemical and Materials Engineering